

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-12 (canceled)

Claim 13 (currently amended): A net-reinforced film structure formed by the process of: providing a film layer; attaching a netting to said film layer, said netting including standard netting strands and at least one seal netting strand, said at least one seal netting strand having a wider cross-section than said standard netting strands;

aligning said at least one seal netting strand with a heat sealing element; and sealing only said at least one seal netting strand to an opposing film structure.

Claim 14 (currently amended): The film structure of claim 13 wherein sealing only said at least one seal netting strand to an opposing film structure comprises sealing said at least one seal netting strand to an opposing seal netting strand.

Claim 15 (currently amended): The film structure of claim 13 wherein sealing only said at least one seal netting strand to an opposing film structure comprises sealing said at least one seal netting strand to an opposing film.

Claim 16 (previously presented): The film structure of claim 13 wherein said at least one seal netting strand has a shallower cross-section than said standard netting strands at a time prior to sealing said at least one seal netting strand to an opposing film structure.

Claim 17 (previously presented): The film structure of claim 13 wherein the film layer is comprised of a film material selected from a group consisting of low-density polyethylene, linear

low-density polyethylene, high density polyethylene, metallocene, ethylene vinyl acetate, and blends of these.

Claim 18 (previously presented): The film structure of claim 13 wherein the netting is comprised of a netting material selected from a group consisting of linear low-density polyethylene, high-density polyethylene, polypropylene, polyethylene, polypropylene/polyethylene copolymer, and metallocene.

Claim 19 (previously presented): The film structure of claim 13 wherein said seal netting strands have a width greater than or equal to about 60 mils.

Claim 20 (previously presented): The film structure of claim 13 wherein the standard netting strands have a width greater than or equal to about 5 mils.

Claim 21 (currently amended): A net-reinforced film structure formed by the process of:
providing a first film layer;

attaching a first netting to said first film layer, said first netting including first standard netting strands and at least one first seal netting strand, said at least one first seal netting strand having a wider cross-section than said first standard netting strands;

providing a second film layer;

attaching a second netting to said second film layer, said second netting including second standard netting strands and at least one second seal netting strand, said at least one second seal netting strand having a wider cross-section than said second standard netting strands;
placing said first netting adjacent said second netting such that said at least one first seal netting strand is approximately aligned with said at least one second seal netting strand;

aligning said at least one first seal netting strand with a heat sealing element; and

sealing only said at least one first seal netting strand to said at least one second seal netting strand.

Claim 22 (previously presented): The film structure of claim 21 wherein said at least one first seal netting strand has a shallower cross-section than said first standard netting strands at a time prior to sealing said at least one first netting strand to said at least one second seal netting strand.

Claim 23 (previously presented): The film structure of claim 21 wherein said first film layer is comprised of a film material selected from a group consisting of low-density polyethylene, linear low-density polyethylene, high density polyethylene, metallocene, ethylene vinyl acetate, and blends of these.

Claim 24 (previously presented): The film structure of claim 21 wherein said first netting is comprised of a netting material selected from a group consisting of linear low-density polyethylene, high-density polyethylene, polypropylene, polyethylene, polypropylene/polyethylene copolymer, and metallocene.

Claim 25 (previously presented): The film structure of claim 21 wherein said first seal netting strands have a width greater than or equal to about 60 mils.

Claim 26 (previously presented): The film structure of claim 21 wherein said first standard netting strands have a width greater than or equal to about 5 mils.

Claim 27 (new): The film structure of claim 13 wherein said seal netting strands further have a shallower cross-section than said standard netting strands.

Claim 28 (new): A net-reinforced film structure formed by the process of:
providing a first film layer;

providing a netting attached to said first film layer, said netting having at least one seal netting strand and a plurality of standard netting strands, said seal netting strand having a cross-sectional profile shallower than said standard netting strands and wider than said standard netting strands;

aligning said at least one seal netting strand with a heat sealing element; and selectively sealing only said at least one seal netting strand to an opposing film structure and leaving said standard netting strands substantially unbonded to said opposing film structure.

Claim 29 (new): The net-reinforced film structure of claim 28 wherein selectively sealing said seal netting strands to an opposing film structure comprises selectively sealing said seal netting strands to an opposing film.

Claim 30 (new): The net-reinforced film structure of claim 28 wherein selectively sealing said seal netting strands to an opposing film structure comprises selectively sealing said seal netting strands to opposing seal netting strands attached to an opposing film.

Claim 31 (new): The net-reinforced film structure formed by the process of claim 13 wherein said process further comprises moving said film layer and said opposing film structure in a direction approximately parallel to a length of said heat sealing element.

Claim 32 (new): The net-reinforced film structure formed by the process of claim 21 wherein said process further comprises moving said first film layer and said second film layer in a direction approximately parallel to a length of said heat sealing element.

Claim 33 (new): The net-reinforced film structure formed by the process of claim 28 wherein said process further comprises moving said first film layer and said opposing film structure in a direction approximately parallel to a length of said heat sealing element.